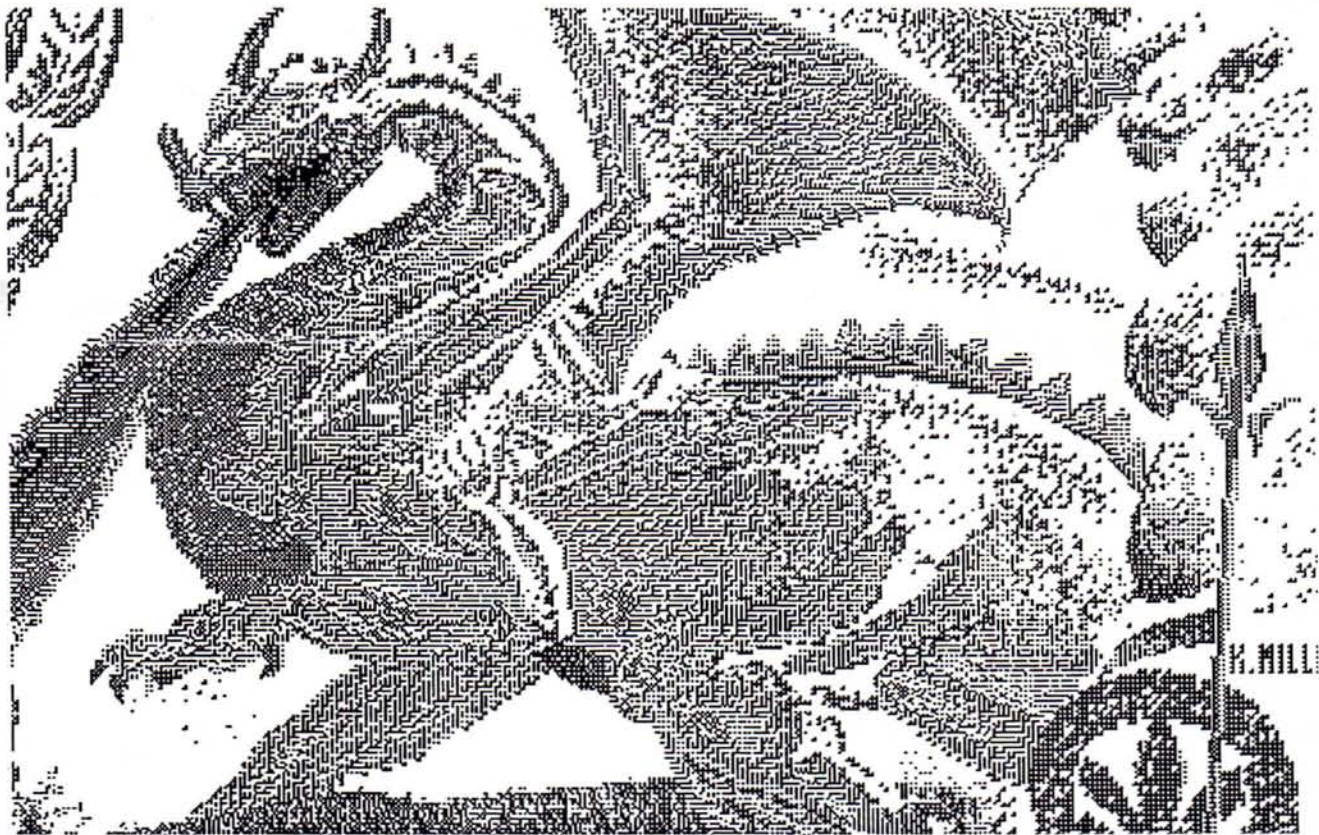


# MEMO PAD

ATARI ANNONYMOUS-ATARI USER'S GROUP

UPLAND, CA

DECEMBER 1987



PUTTING SOME FIRE BACK INTO YOUR  
ATARI COMPUTER

Atari Anonymous  
Atari User's Group  
C/O P.O. Box 1433 Upland CA 91786

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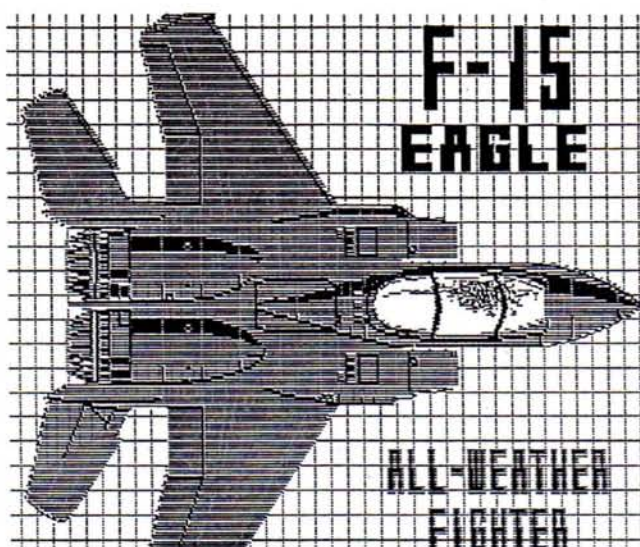
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### Membership Benefits

Disk library (100+ XE Disks, 40+ ST Disks)  
Discount purchases at various vendors  
Support from other ATARI users  
Top Access on AA-AUG BBS  
This monthly Newsletter

Permission is granted to any ATARI  
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## F-15 Strike Eagle

BY Micro Prose for the ST

By John Lechmanik

Okay flyboys, did you get a chance to fly your Harrier jets yet? Well you don't have to worry about it any more thanks to MICRO PROSE. F-15 Strike Eagle has been released for the ST. Since this was my favorite game for the XE I was looking forward to the release of this game. When opened I saw the familiar manual for the XE, but with the addition of a few notations for the ST. In general it is the same as the XE, but it has taken advantage of the ST superior graphics. Some of the stats of the F-15 are: Wing span 42 feet, length 63 feet, height 18 feet. The engines are two Pratt & Whitney F100-PW-100 turbofans. Each one is rated at 14,375 pounds of thrust. the fuel capacity is 13,455 pounds internal, with 11,895 pounds in external drop tanks. The performance capacities of the F-15 are 1440 knots maximum speed at 36,000 feet or Mach 2.5+. Climb rate is over 50,000 feet per minute. Top ceiling is 62,000 feet. Fuel consumption is 0.7 pounds of fuel per hour per pound of thrust. The firepower consists of a

M-61A1 six barrel 20mm rotary cannon firing 6000 pounds per minute with 1000 rounds of ammo. Four AIM-9L sidewinders short range heatseeking missiles, four AIM-7F sparrows medium range semi-active radar homing missiles, and six groups of three MK-82 low-drag 500 pound bombs. In other words more than enough firepower to do the job. Graphics were of the same type as the 8-bit version except that the enemy jets are solid 3-D type objects. The graphics are much clearer in the viewscreen and the explosions are a little more realistic. The ground targets are clearer, not just little x's. The action is of the same type as the 8-bit version with the addition of two more missions. These include the attack on Kaddafi's command center. All things considered I can see how this will become my favorite combat game for the ST and it should become your too. The cost? Well much less that the price of a F-15 Fighter jet, only about \$39 at your favorite Computer store.....

### THE MEGA ST COMPATIBILITY LIST

\*\*\*\*\*

20/Aug/87 - ST Writer (prior to version 1.75) will not display "Free Memory" properly; the counter is limited to six digits. This applies to ALL ST's having 1 meg. or more. (From Dave Plotkin).

28/Sep/87 - TWISTER will not format a disk on the mega. (From Bill Hollenback).

28/Sep/87 - ASSEMPRO incorrectly displays Free Space. (From Bill Hollenback).

3/Nov/87 - THE BARD'S TALE program bombs when exiting the Mega ST 4.

(From Dave Davey).

Downloaded from Antic (Comp-u-serve)



## Arcing With Gary

### How to use ARC

Whether you use a modem with your ST or not, it is good to know how to use ARC.TTP (Tos takes Parameters). Arc is generally used with a modem because of it's ability to reduce the size of the file. In most cases, ARC can cut the size of the file from 35-50%, and also combine several files into 1 neat file. Much like Scrunch/Shrink from the 8-bit, but Scrunch/Shrink was unable to reduce the size of the files. With thease large ST files, ARC is a must. Now if you are one for BACKING up some or all of your software, you might want to try ARC. You will be able to get just about twice the amount of data on a disk in the ARC form, when in it's regular file form. So if you back up everything, it will save you some money in the cost of the disks.

Ok there are SHELL version's of ARC, which are Menu driven, but I use just ARC.TTP, for me, after you learn the commands ARC.TTP is easier. Now there are many commands of ARC. but I am only going to cover what I think are the 4 most used commands.

AH-- *Add files to Archive and hold.*

XH-- *Extract files from Archive and hold.*

VH-- *Verbose listing of all files in Archive and hold.*

TH-- *Test Archive Integrity and hold.*

I generally do most of my ARCing in Ram disk, so that is why I use the "H" for hold. I recommend doing it that way due to Speed, and you will know the file size before you copy it to a disk,saves time if the disk allready has files on it and might be filled up with new ones added. Also you can find out the size of the ARC'ed file before hand, by doing Verbose listing, which shows you the UN-ARC'ed file size.

### Ok now how to use ARC

To extract a ARC'ed file, move it into Ram Disk, along with ARC.TTP. Double click ARC.TTP. You will see Open Application: Now type XH (first letter of the ARC'ed file)\*. Example: the file name is TEST, XH T\* and click OK, all the files will be stored in RamDisk after they are un-ARC'ed. If you can not create a large enough Ram disk to store the ARC'ed file and all the UN-ARC'ed files, then do this. Move the ARC'ed file into Ram Disk, have ARC.TTP on a Blank disk by itself. Click on ARC on drive A, now type XH D:\*.\* A:\*.\*, this will copy all the UN-ARC'ed files to drive A. There are many ways to do this, but It depends on if you have two drives, 1/2 or 1 meg systems. I do as I just said, but direct it to drive B, Example XH D:\*.\* B:\*.\*, Running ARC from drive A. PLEASE note that there are a blank space between the H and the D, and the \* and the B.

### To create a ARC'ed file

To ARC'ed files, move them into Ram Disk, (NO FOLDERS) you have to open the folders, and copy the files into Ram Disk. Now Run ARC.TTP from drive A, and type AH D:TEST.ARC D:\*.\*, this will ARC all the files in Ram Disk and copy them to Ram Disk under the name of TEST.ARC. With AH you type in the destination drive first, along with the file name, then where to find the files. If again the files are too large for Ram Disk, and you have two drives. Have all the files on Drive A and you want to send the ARC'ed file to Drive B. AH B:TEST.ARC A:\*.\* You can type in file names instead of the wild card(\*.\*)(\*), but I find this considerably easier.To get a Verbose listing: move the ARC'ed file into Ram disk, along with ARC.TTP. Click on ARC.TTP and type VH (first letter)\* Example TEST.ARC. VH T\*, click the OK box, this will display on the screen all the files beforeand how they will look UN-ARC'ed, the size in bytes and other information of the files.



### To TEST the ARC'ed file

Same as above, but type TH instead of VH, and this will tell you if 1 or more of the files are ok or not.

Well, use the above information as a guide, there are as I said, many ways to do all the functions of ARC. Some of you may prefer the SHELL program, but at least now you have some kind of understanding of what ARC is and what it does.

Please save this message, even if you don't have a ST, because if you should some day buy one, ARC seems to be one of the hardest things to understand for MOST people, alas if I had a DOC comparable to this one when I was learning ARC, it would of make it much easier to understand.

Gary Leonardo

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### Editor's Column

Well this is the first newsletter printed by Susan Mee and myself as a team effort. Hopefully you will like the results. If you have any questions or suggestions feel free to leave me Feedback on the BBS. Although we have a large collections of articles gathered from other sources we would prefer to have more articles from the members of the club. Some of the many topics could include program reviews, helpful hints on how to use your computer, or other things of common interest to ATARI users.

Many people don't think they have things of importance to say, but this is incorrect. Many of the problems you have solved in using your ATARI computer are being faced by other new ATARI users right now. So go ahead and write us an article, you might enjoy the results..

Editor John Lechmanik

### From The President

#### TO ALL MEMBERS

As your newly elected President I wish to ask each and every member to join in a team effort to develop this club into a true resource for Atari users. Each and every member should expect to participate. It is the participation of the members and their interests which will develop this club. As president, I can only direct, oversee, and encourage the members in the goals they set for the club. We can make this a useful, helpful and really fun organization, but we will only accomplish this through participation. I wish to thank those at the November meeting for their support and invite the rest of the members to the December meeting. We intend to examine the by laws, boost our membership, and set goals of attainment in the interests of the members. So those of you who have ideas of what you wish this club to be, please attend the meeting. With a little effort on everyones part, we will all attain to the desired goals of the whole and have a fun time doing it. Lets all plan to make the December meeting and have a great time reorganizing this users group into a fun, helpful and exciting group!!!!!!

Susan Mee

BBS Number 986-4860

Call it today!!!!



## WAR Against Phone Hacking Heats UP

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By Greg Pearlman

Computer break-ins are no longer viewed as harmless pranks. For example, unauthorized computer access is a misdemeanor under 502PC of the California Penal Code if you just trespass and browse around --and if it's your first offense.

But: "Any person who maliciously accesses, alters, deletes, damages, destroys or disrupts the operation of any computer system, computer network, computer program or data is guilty of public offense" -- a felony under Section C of that code. Even changing a password to "Gotcha" is a felony if it can be proven that it was a "malicious access."

In California, the maximum punishment is state imprisonment, a \$10,000 fine and having your equipment confiscated. The penalty depends on who you are, your prior record and the seriousness of the crime.

And you don't have to, for instance, breach national security to be guilty of a felony. Accessing even a simple system for a small company could damage vital data for more than a year's worth of business, especially if that company didn't properly back up its data.

There are all kinds of computer crime. Stealing an automated teller machine card and withdrawing money from an account is a computer crime because you're using a computer to get money out of a system. But simply trespassing in a system and not doing any damage is normally a misdemeanor, according to Sgt. John McMullen of the Stanford University Police Services. This kind of crime has become very common. "Every kid with a computer is tempted,"

he said.

Unfortunately, it can take months to complete an investigation. For instance, the so-called "Legion of Doom" case, beginning in September, 1986, took 10 months to solve and involved people in Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Oregon and California.

If someone breaks into the computers of, for example, California's Pacific Bell, and the break-in is severe, Pacific Bell Security gets warrants issued, and then, with the police, confiscates computers, manuals, telephone lists and directories -- all related equipment. It's common for the computer to be tied up for a few months as evidence. (And by the time Pacific Bell Security does get involved, the evidence is usually overwhelming -- the conviction rate is extremely high.)

"Whenever I'm involved in a case," said McMullen, "I ask the judge for permission to confiscate the equipment. That's one big incentive for hackers not to do this kind of stuff. I haven't had any repeaters, but I know of one case where the guy probably WILL do it again when he gets out."

"Usually the shock of what happens to a juvenile's parents -- who bought the equipment and watched it get confiscated -- is enough to make them stop. But we don't really have enough cases to know what the parents do."

### ACCESS

"It's easy for hackers to find company phone numbers," said Daniel Suthers, Atari user and operations manager at Pacific Bell in Concord, California. "Most large companies have a block of 500 to 1,000 phone numbers set aside for their own use. At least one line will have a modem."

"People post messages on hacker/phreaker bases on some BBS's and say 'I don't know who this phone number belongs to, but it's a business,



judging by the prefix, and has a 1200-baud tone.' Then it's open season for the hackers and phreakers."

Phreakers aren't much different than hackers -- they're just specifically telephone-oriented. In "CompuTalk: Texas-Sized BBS" (Antic, August 1987), sysop Kris Meier discussed phreakers who appear to have called from phone numbers other than the ones they were actually using. A computer isn't needed to do this -- it's usually done with a "blue box." "The blue boxes were used mostly in the late 1960s and early '70s," said McMullen. "They fool the network and let people make free long distance calls -- a tone generator simulates the signalling codes used by long distance operators. The boxes were phased out a couple of years ago, though: they no longer let hackers access AT&T, but Sprint and MCI can be accessed by something similar. However, computer programs are normally used now."

To get long-distance phone service, hackers now use one of several programs passed among other hackers (on bulletin boards, for example). They find the local access number for Sprint or MCI and then run the program -- perhaps for a few days. It generates and dials new phone numbers, and the hackers can check to see how many new or free codes they've turned up.

They can post the codes on a BBS, and their friends will use them until they get stopped by the long-distance company -- depending on how long it takes the company to realize that these numbers hadn't been issued yet -- or until the customers discover that their numbers have been accessed by someone who isn't "authorized."

Bulletin boards can be especially easy prey. "If a hacker knew your BBS program intimately, he could probably figure it out, but that's messy," said Suthers. "If he can find a back door,

it's easier. Sysops are notorious for putting in their own back doors because, though they have all the Security under the sun on the FRONT doors, they still want to get in without problems. It's just like what happened in the films *Tron* and *Wargames* -- which probably taught a whole generation a lot of things."

Meier had said in the August, 1987 issue of Antic that someone once called his board COLLECT. Simply put, the caller fooled the operator. McMullen says that's been around for a long time. "It's common in prisons and situations where the phones are restricted."

McMullen also said that if the timing is just right, as soon as the modem answers, the phreaker can wait for an operator to say "Will you accept the charges," then say "Yes." The operator can't tell which end said yes, and if the modem has a long delay before the connect tone, the phreaker can get away with it. It couldn't be done entirely electronically -- the voice contact is needed.

"I've never run across people accessing online services such as CompuServe in this way, but I'm sure it happens," said McMullen. "People suddenly get strange charges on their phone bills."

"The hackers I've dealt with are very brilliant and good at what they do. Of course, when you do something all day that you're really interested in, you're GOING to be good at it."

#### DOOM

McMullen's most recent hacker case at Stanford University dealt with the Legion of Doom, an elite group of hackers who broke into computers -- some containing national defense-related items.

"As I understand it, they're supposed to be the top hackers in the nation," McMullen said. "I started investigating the case when it began crossing state lines, getting a bit too big.

I contacted the FBI, who said that



because of the Secret Service's jurisdiction over credit card and telephone access fraud, they'd taken over computer crime investigations that go across state lines -- actually, anything involving a telephone access code. This case, of course, involved access codes, because the Sprint and AT&T systems were used, and it was the Secret Service, not the FBI, that made the arrests.

"I think that the publicity from this case will scare people, and there'll be a lot less hacking for a while. Some hackers are afraid to do anything: they're afraid that the Secret Service is watching them, too."

#### TRACING

AT&T, Sprint and MCI now have ANI -- Automatic Number Identification -- as does Pacific Bell. It aids a great deal in detecting hackers. Pacific Bell usually just assists in this type of investigation and identifies the hackers. "It's easy to trace a call if the caller logs in more than once," said Suthers. "The moment they dial in, a message is printed out -- before the phone even answers -- pinpointing where it came from, where it went to, the whole shmeer."

"A blue box made it much harder to detect, but if a hacker used it consistently, we could eventually trace it back. So if someone is in California and makes it look as if he'd called from New York, we can trace it across the country one way, and then back across. Generally, though if the call IS billed to a New York number, the caller is actually somewhere like Florida. But we can back-trace the call itself, especially if it's extremely long."

But recently someone broke into Pacific Bell "through a fluke of circumstances," Suthers said, "We closed down that whole area, so they can't get back in that way, but if they dial the number again, they're in trouble."

If Pacific Bell Security detects a break-in, the area is secured immediately.

Sometimes hackers are steered toward a kind of "pseudo-system" that makes them THINK they've broken in -- but in fact they're being monitored and traced.

As to how many hackers there are, who knows? There's a lot of misuse and inside work that's never detected or reported.

#### SECURITY

Security systems are expensive, but someone with a lot of data and an important system should seriously look into one. Very few hackers are caught, simply because few corporations have good security systems.

"Passwords should never be names, places or anything that can be found in a dictionary," said Suthers. "People shouldn't be able to just write a program to send words from their AtariWriter Plus dictionary disk. Normally there should be a letter here, a few numbers there -- garbage. Thus, if someone writes a program to generate random symbols and keeps calling back until he breaks in, he'll probably be traced."

"Some corporations aren't very computer literate and don't worry about things like passwords until they've been hit, which is a shame. But it's all out there in the books. TRICKS OF THE UNIX MASTER (by Russell Sage, published by SAMS Publications, \$22.95) is a beautiful book that tells you exactly what to do to avoid break-ins."

McMullen said that Stanford is trying to tighten up security by emphasizing the importance of better passwords. "When researchers want to do their work, however, they don't want to mess with passwords and codes," he said. "Universities seem to want to make their systems easier for researchers to use. The more accessible it is, obviously, the less security there is in terms of passwords. It's easier to use your name



as a password than some complicated character string.

"So any hacker worth his salt can go onto any computer system and pull out an account. Especially with UNIX, it's very easy to access it, entering as the password the first name of the person who has the account. These Legion of Doom hackers used a program that actually found out what the passwords were: it began by just checking the names. They were very successful -- it was just unbelievable."

But McMullen feels that security fell way behind the advances made in computers, and several avenues were left open for people to explore. "Often these hackers don't mean to be malicious or destructive," he said, "but I think they really feel triumphant at getting on. Sometimes they do damage without realizing it, just by tramping through the system: shutting down phone lines, programs and accounting systems."

However, the strides made in security since then have accounted for arrests, confiscations and convictions all over the country -- but there are still many more who haven't been caught.

Downloaded from Comp-u-serve

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### From the Sysop

The BBS is still up and running with 10 MEGS online. The board has grown to 6 message bases and file types including XE programs, ST programs, and a few IBM programs. Due to the support of PC Ditto fans we retain a few of the better Public Domain PD files. There is currently an excellent IBM file called "As easy As" which is one of the best PD spreadsheet program I have ever seen. There are over 30 8-bit games online and quite a few short home utilities. For the ST user we have a few good public domain games including ST Logs "Floyd the

Droyd". Also there are many popular picture files of TNY, Spectrum, and Degas format. Both of the clubs Atari 1050 drives are back and functioning properly with one of the drives supporting the XE "Disk of the Week". This disk contains the club's XE library condensed onto about 20 DS DD disks that are changed every Sunday night. These programs are only available to users with AA-AUG security clearance. The ST "Disk of the Week" project is still being worked on, and I have hopes of completing it before you receive this newsletter. If you haven't ever called a BBS before now is the time to do it. You will be surprised how much fun telecommunications can be..

Sysop John Lechmanik

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### MINUTES OF 10 OCTOBER 1987 AA-AUG MEETING

Hopefully you received your October/November combined issue of Memo Pad. It had some extremely interesting articles on the COMDEX electronics show held in Las Vegas earlier this month and on printing pictures. Our mini-crisis situation-- the lack of a president and a newsletter editor was resolved through a bloodless military coup-- Susan Mee and John Lechmanik came in with light pens drawn and laser printers at the ready! On the serious side Susan (a new member) volunteered to be our president and John volunteered to take over the newsletter. The membership present unanimously voted them into office. Actually Susan and John will work together to put the newsletter out since Susan has also volunteered the use of her Mega ST, laser printer and copying machine to print it. ANYONE willing to help them will be greatly appreciated! Barbara Ling reported that our treasury is still "in the black," but rather low. A



discussion ensued as to how we might increase our funds. Increased membership was deemed to be the key. Raffles were considered to be secondary. Participation in computer club demonstrations at the Montclair Plaza will also be investigated. It was noted that Federated was extremely interested inquiring flyers for AA-AUG! I wonder if Jack has anything to do with this??

**LIBRARY NOTES:**

8-Bit: Smiley Collins reported no new acquisitions.

ST: Henry Vanderbeck reported the following new ST files: a German muppet type music demo, a chess program, an 8-bit emulator, ST Writer Elite and a copy program.

BBS NOTES: John Lechmanik reported that the board is running great with the new hard disk drive, which had over 180 files on it with plenty of room to spare. He also noted that of the 43 users that had logged on, only 15 were club members. If you have a modem give it a try-- you'll like it-- ask Frank, he does! If you don't have a modem, drop a hint to Santa Claus. For under \$100 they are a lot of fun and make getting programs easy!

Jay McCarthy gave us a first hand report on the COMDEX show, which was also reported on by Gilbert Bush in the last newsletter. After listening to Jay and having read Gilbert's article as well as one in COMPUTER & SOFTWARE NEWS on the new Atari super computer, I was reminded of the old story of the 3 blind men who were asked to describe an elephant-- each one had a different impression of what it was. No disrespect guys, I just wish Atari would send out press releases to its registered users groups! Jay also reported that the Upland Library notified us of their holiday schedule and that our fourth Thursday of the month

meetings for both November and December would be second Thursday of the month meetings-- the same week as our regular meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

**John Mandel, Secretary**

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**8 Bit News**

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By GREGG PEARLMAN,

EASYFIND SYSTEM (magazine index)  
Sierra Services P.O. Box 40454  
Bellevue, WA 98004 (206) 881-2868 \$9.95,  
48K disk

This specialized information retrieval software works with indexes compiled from articles in Antic and other computer magazines. Each one-year index contains a summary of every program, article, review, correction and tip -- all cross-referenced. The EasyFind System uses multiple search phases or keywords to quickly retrieve these references, outputting them to screen, disk or printer.

Each full year of information costs \$4.95 per magazine.

VIDEO VEGAS (entertainment software) Baudville 1001 Medical Park Drive S.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49506 (616) 957-3036 \$29.95, 48K disk

Turn your Atari into a casino with Video Vegas. Play the slots, blackjack, draw poker and keno. The Lucky 7 slot machine is a classic three-reel slot which pays back about \$98 for each \$100 you put in. Blackjack features a sort of card-counting tutorial to sharpen your skill. Draw Poker mimics video poker machines, paying off on a pair of jacks or better. Keno is just like real Keno -- except there's no real money to lose.

MATH BLASTER!, WORD ATTACK!, SPELL IT! (education software)



Davidson & Associates Inc. 3135 Kashiwa Street Torrance, CA 90505 (800) 556-6141 - National (213) 534-4070 - California \$49.95 each, 48K disk

These three programs help students master math, vocabulary and spelling in a new, exciting way. Math Blaster!, for grades 1 through 6, contains more than 600 problems grouped into 25 "families of facts" in ascending difficulty levels

covering addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals and percents. Word Attack! gives 4th-graders through 12th-graders 675 new words in 27 lists and various tests. Additional data disks are available for \$19.95. Spell It! has 50 word lists covering 1,000 commonly misspelled words in five difficulty levels featuring games and an editor.

GUDERIAN, STOCKS AND BONDS (entertainment software) Avalon Hill 4517 Harford Road Baltimore, MD 21214 (301) 254-9200 48K disk

Guderian (\$30) uses the popular joystick-driven system from the Gulf Strike game to simulate this World War II campaign. The player must master Blitzkrieg tactics to encircle and overrun Soviet divisions and drive deep enough into Russia to capture Moscow. Stocks and Bonds (\$25) puts you into a different kind of battle. In a fast-paced format, you invest in securities and get a graphic understanding of the Bull and Bear markets along with the importance of performance histories in planning an investment strategy.

KEYPUNCH SOFTWARE (various programs) Keypunch Software 1221 Pioneer Building St. Paul, MN 55101 (612) 292-1490 \$6.99 to \$9.99, 48K disk

The extremely low prices are the kicker in this new family of 8-bit software. Entertainment software includes *Gambler*, *Space Games*, *Arcade Games*, *Strategy Simulations* and *Mind Mazes*. Others include *Money Tools*, *Fun*

*in Learning and Fun in Numbers*.

WARSHIP (entertainment software) Strategic Simulations Inc. 1046 N. Rengstorff Avenue Mountain View, CA 94043 (415) 964-1353 \$59.95, 48K disk

Almost every warship that fought in the Pacific from 1941-45 is included in Warship. Choose from 79 classes of ships from the Allied or Japanese fleets, or modify ship data to create new warships. The game has four scenarios -- including one non-historical situation. Players can also devise original maps to create any possible ship-to-ship tactical surface engagement.

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## Atari Fair

November 9, 1987

by George Abruzzese

LAS VEGAS--Atari took the wraps off a slew of new products that it hopes will convince business users that the company is shedding its "toy" image and wants to be a serious contender in the business computer market.

Among the products shown at COMDEX were a high-performance work station, a CD ROM player that also plays musical CD disks, a LAN, new XT- and AT-compatible computers, the MEGA computers (which began shipping in October) and a laser printer.

But powerful machines alone won't do the trick, say some of the observers. "Shedding the image of a toy computer maker is a definite requirement, but they must also build up trust in the dealer channel, where changes in their marketing strategies have hurt their credibility because they forced dealers into trying to compete with mass merchandisers," said Lee H. Pappas, publisher of Analog Computing.

There was power aplenty. The new 32 bit work station is called the ABAQ and it can act as host for Atari ST and



Mega CPU'S. ABAQ uses parallel processing chips and reduced instruction set computer architecture (RISC). "The ABAQ is a micro version of a super computer," said Atari president Sam Tramiel. "It is a powerful number cruncher that also can create graphics of almost photographic quality."

Parallel processors and the RISC architecture speed up the pm because the system can perform several operations at once by spreading the task among different processors. ABAQ uses the 32 bit Inmos T-800 microprocessor and is about 10 times faster than the IBM AT, Atari claims. The ABAQ system includes 4 Mbytes and an additional megabyte for the display, still under development.

The ABAQ will run under a Unixlike operating system called Helios and a DOS-emulator is also under development. Even without business acceptance, the Tramiel built Atari is doing well. For its 9 months, ended Sept. 30, Atari reported net income of \$38.7 million, an increase of %80 from \$21.5 million in the year ago 9 months. Nine month sales were \$216.2 million, a 30.7% rise from \$165.5 million a year ago.

Some of the new products won't have an impact on Atari's financial statements until next year. The new CD player, which will be available in early 1988 for under \$1000, will read CD-ROM disks, play musical CD's and will support Atari Mega and ST computers. The CD player can read up to 540 Mbytes of data, roughly the amount that can be stored on 1,000 floppy disks.

Atari's new LAN called Moses PromiseLAN, is compatible with the NetBios standard used by IBM and Novell and can transmit data at a rate of 1 Mbyte per second to pc's and over 250K per second over Apple-Talk. The new LAN will connect up to 17 pc's in a star configuration using off-the-shelf

telephone wiring. It will be available in February for \$599.

Atari will also provide adapters for its CPU'S and a new laser printer to allow them to share data and also resources with PCs and Macintoshes. The long awaited PC-compatible line includes the PC2 and PC4, which are XT and AT-compatible, respectively. Prices were not announced. Both CPUs have a variety of options, including 3 1/2" and 5 1/4" drives. The PC2 is an XT-compatible running at 4.77 or 8 MHz and includes 512K ram for the system and an additional 256K for the display.

The PC4, with up to 1 Mbyte, is an AT-compatible that runs at 8 or 12 MHz with no wait states. Both systems support EGA and can be upgraded to VGA. In the desktop publishing market Atari will offer the SLM804 laser printer with the Mega 2 and Mega 4 CPU'S. Prices start at \$4,000 for a system built around the 8-page per-minute printer, a MEGA CPU, a disk drive and monochrome monitor.

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## ST Products

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By GREGG PEARLMAN,  
ANTIC ASSISTANT EDITOR

## THREE FROM MICHTRON

Bone up on your knowledge of the Isles of Langerhans, frog-eating contests and toe exhibitions in the fast-paced, none-too-easy Trivia Challenge. Nearly 4,000 questions range from international sports to the arts to pop music to science to general knowledge.

Backup! copies your hard disk files to floppies and back again, minimizing the risk of loss. The fast, specialized routines help the program orchestrate the entire backup procedure for you, so there's no reason not to make backups.



Enjoy hours of creative pleasure with the Pinball Factory as you design, build and edit your own screens. Choose from several bumpers, tabs and other devices, and place them anywhere you like, to get the action just right. Commands include Draw, Line, Ray, Frame, Box, Circle, Detail (to magnify small areas), Airbrush and Shadow. Change any of the ST's 16 palette colors -- even change the rules: alter gravity, bounce, scoring, bumper strength and tab bonuses. Play three balls at once.

\$39.95 each. MichTron Inc., 576 S. Telegraph, Pontiac, MI 48053. (313) 334-5700. PRESS.

#### **HISOFT BASIC COMPILER, DEVPAC ST AND SAVEDI**

The ST BASIC-compatible HiSoft BASIC Compiler (about \$20 in English pounds) has a GEM-driven editor and executes compiled programs up to 30 times faster than when they're interpreted. Programs can be as big as your computer will allow, and you can call assembly language and C functions. Complete graphics support includes multiple windows, and strings can be 16Mb long.

DevpacST (\$79.95) combines a full 68000 macroassembler that can assemble source code at 30,000 lines per minute, a full screen editor with a comprehensive range of search-and-replace commands, a powerful disassembler and debugger that uses its own screen memory and drivers so you can debug graphics programs easily, and a fast linker.

Saved! (\$49) is mainly a desk accessory that lets you delete, rename and copy files, get information on a file or disk, or copy or format disks and print text files. You can set the path used to find executable programs, and Saved! can look for other drives and other directories.

HiSoft, The Old School, Greenfield, Bedford MK45 5DE, England. +44 525 718181. PRESS.

#### **ACCOUNTS, INVOICING, INVENTORY CONTROL**

Execon's Accounts is a fully-integrated modular business system (about \$250 in English pounds) consisting of Set-up, Accounts Receivable and Payable, General Ledger, Trial Balance and Forecasting. The menu-driven Invoicing/Order Processing (\$150) system can stand alone or integrate fully with other modules and allows automatic transfer of data between modules. With the Inventory Control System (\$150) you can use the two-bin system, wherein as soon as one bin is empty, supplies are taken from the second bin and an order is placed; the periodic review method, in which stock levels are reviewed at set periods or dates, allowing for all orders from one supplier to be made together; or the re-order level method, where a minimum stock level is set and stock is re-ordered as soon as that level is reached.

Maximum file size for all Execon programs is 32,000 units, and you can configure your hardware to your own requirements.

Execon Limited, 143-145 Uxbridge Road, Ealing, London W13 9AV, England. 01-567 6288. PRESS.

#### **THUNDER! FOR HEARING-IMPAIRED**

Batteries Included's Thunder! now lets people with impaired hearing to use the program's real-time spelling checker. Instead of beeping, the new version of Thunder! alerts you by blinking the screen. Now you can see when a spelling error has been detected. This special version is available free with the return of the original disk.

Batteries Included, 30 Mural Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 1B5, Canada. (416) 881-9941. PRESS.

#### **JOYSTICK/MOUSE**

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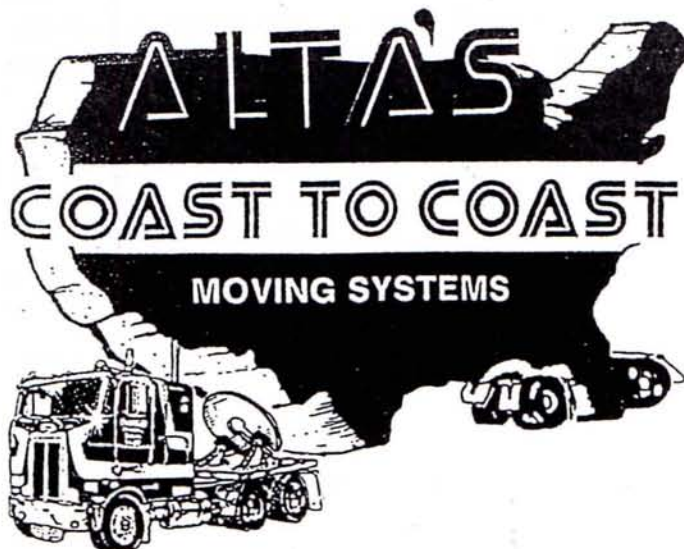
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This interface sends the appropriate pulses to the computer when you move the stick, moving the cursor as the mouse would. And you can adjust the speed of the cursor response. The trigger button on the joystick becomes the left button on the mouse, but where's the right button? On the box. Try this on a flight simulator, where you might rather use a joystick than a mouse.

\$29.95. State of the Arts Electronics (SOTAE), 6150 Jessup Road, Cincinnati, OH 45247. (513) 385-3312. PRESS.

#### QUIZAM

You are the commander of a U.S. space shuttle flight, and your mission, should you decide to accept it, is to dispose of eight useless satellites. Malfunctions and automatic defense systems hinder your progress, and the satellites beam strange, obscure -- even trivial -- questions at you. Answer these to capture the satellites in this newfangled trivia game, or provide your own questions and categories.

\$54.95. Electronic Arts, 1820 Gateway Drive, San Mateo, CA 94404. (415) 571-7171. PRESS.

#### DOLLARS AND SENSE

Monogram's best-selling personal finance package, Dollars and Sense, sets up five different types of record-keeping: assets, liabilities, expenses, income and checking. Recently ported over to the ST, the system supports unlimited transactions in each category. It can also produce a wide variety of reports and graphs for screen or printer. The non-copy-protected program supports hard disk drives and provides two levels of online help screens.

\$99.95. Monogram, 8295 S. La Cienega Blvd., Inglewood, CA 90301. (213) 215-0355. PRESS.

#### SPACE QUEST

In this science fiction parody (with 3-D graphics), you control the main character, Roger Wilco, as he works his

way from sanitation engineer to space-age swashbuckler and lone space hero. Direct Roger through more than 60 animated scenes of spaceship interiors, alien landscapes and deep space.

\$49.95. Sierra On-Line Inc., P.O. Box 485, Coarsegold, CA 93614. (209) 683-6858. PRESS.

#### LASERTYPE

Softlab's LaserType takes full advantage of the Hewlett Packard LaserJet+ printer and gives smooth graphics and full typesetting capabilities. Select from 20 different screens and tones for column headings, backgrounds or graphic designing, and control 16 type styles and sizes.

\$279. Softlab, P.O. Box 879, St. George, UT 84770. (801) 628-5400. PRESS.

#### FORE\* STAR AND PAYDAY

Fore\* Star integrates General Ledger, the Financial Modeler spreadsheet, a word processor and Portfolio, a financial report print sequencer, all for less than \$100. General Ledger account balances and historical balances are directly available for use within spreadsheets, and the General Ledger module features up to 32 independent journals and 512 accounts. The word processor has insert/delete, cut & paste and search-and-replace features. The Portfolio module links desired spreadsheet templates and word processor text documents in virtually any order.

PayDay (\$69.95), is designed for small to medium-sized businesses, handling an annual payroll of \$21 million for up to 255 employees. A built-in user configuration utility lets PayDay adapt to almost any payroll situation in any state. Two time card entry modes and context-sensitive online help are available.

Crystal Software. P.O. Box 803, Merlin, OR 97532. (503) 479-9516. PRESS.

#### QMS PRINTERS

Keep It Smart and Simple with the QMS KISS (\$1,995), which produces crisp,



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near-typeset characters at nearly 400 characters per second (cps) -- six pages a minute. Mix 64 fonts on a single page, and combine graphics with portrait and landscape text on the same page.

The Big KISS and Big KISS II (both \$2,995) are quiet and fast, also allowing 64 different fonts on a page, with 17 built in. The Big KISS has a standard parallel interface, and the Big KISS II has a dual serial/parallel interface. Print eight pages per minute, and 256K can be used to print graphics with single, double, triple and quadruple Epson densities.

The QMS Smartwriter 80+ gives you 19 resident fonts, 75, 150 or 300 dots per inch (dpi), and 2.5Mb of dynamic RAM, allowing you to produce a full legal page of bit-mapped graphics. Also, you can use most software packages that work with your dot-matrix or daisywheel printers. QMS, P.O. Box 81250, Mobile, AL 36689. (205) 633-4300. PRESS.

#### DRAFIX 1

This inexpensive, full-featured CAD program features automatic dimensioning, snap modes, layering, and transform/copy commands. Drafix 1 offers a second-generation user interface that has all menus visible all the time -- you don't need to memorize menu hierarchies.

\$149.95. Foresight Resources Corp., 932 Massachusetts, Lawrence, KS 66044. (913) 841-1121. PRESS.

#### DESIGNER COVERS

They're water-repellant but they let your ST "breathe." Choose from 12 colors and three types of material. These machine-washable covers protect your equipment from dust, liquid or other foreign matter that could disable it. Ventilation allows condensation to evaporate from heated parts. Prices range from \$9.99 to \$100.

Designer Products Inc., 6585 S. Yale, Suite 1050, Tulsa, OK 74136. (800) 223-2687. PRESS.

#### ANIMATOR ST

Animator ST from Aegis uses a concept called "tweening" to control the movement of objects during an animation, breaking it up into manageable units. You can create objects within the program and, for instance, change a pyramid into a star by dragging the points of the pyramid to the proper positions. When that tween is replayed, Animator ST creates all the in-between positions of the shape. The program also features color-cycling, in which repetitive movements can be animated, and cels created in NEOchrome can be page-flipped.

\$79.95. Aegis Development, 2210 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 277, Santa Monica, CA 90403. (213) 392-6445. PRESS.

#### LDW BASIC COMPILER, VERSION 1.1

Along with improved packaging and an updated manual, the LDW BASIC Compiler now has faster screen output, an enhanced GEM environment, multiline statements and improved runtime error-handling. Arithmetic functions are four times faster and compilation is up to 70% faster than version 1.0.

\$69.95 (\$25 for registered users of version 1.0). Logical Design Works Inc., 780 Montague Expressway, Suite 205, San Jose, CA 95131. (408) 435-1445. PRESS.

#### FLEET STREET EDITOR

This desktop publishing package (about \$150 in English pounds) has a complete disk of library graphics and is ideal for newsletters, sales bulletins, restaurant menus and circulars. The two Fleet Street Publisher packages for the ST let you produce multi-page documents with editable page layouts and more, in addition to those features offered at the Editor level. Features include kerning (changing the spacing between characters to make words more attractive), picture sizing, cropping and output to dot-matrix or laser printers. Mirrorsoft, Maxwell House, 74 Worship Street, London EC2A 2EN. 01-377 4645.



### Presidents Credentials

The AA-Aug is proud to present Susan Mee, our newly elected President. She comes to us with a very diversified background. She is at present 49 years of age with almost 20 years in accounting and all aspects of secretarial background. She has been self-employed for many years in the following occupations; accountant, proprietor of a pet store, truck driver, publisher and editor, dance teacher, sales and is now the owner of Alta's Coast to Coast Moving Systems, here in the local area.

She is an accredited artist, both in oils and pastels. She is the daughter of an accredited hypnotherapist, who also excelled in many fields and endeavors, Burr O Shellenbarger and Alta I. Shellenbarger, an accredited creative artist. She has three children, and five grandchildren, and was raised in California, although not born here.

She spent many years working with her father in the field of hypnosis and the study of psychology and all related fields, including parapsychology, and is at present editing and publishing her father's writings.

She has owned an 800 Atari system and an Hp150 system for many years and worked with a computer store in configuring systems for accounting programs on many types of computers. She is now the proud owner of a Mega ST, with an HPlaser series II printer and hard drive, as well as a 1040 St for Her Husband.

In her spare time she likes gardening, boating, bike riding, Horseback riding, fishing, swimming and all types of arts and crafts.

Lets all welcome her into our users group with real support by attending the December meeting and really participating in the forming of a special users group.

### Editors notes

*This is for those of you who had no idea who our new president is. Although Susan won our election by default, I didn't want anybody to think we were getting an unqualified President. Hopefull all of you will join me in supporting our new President..*

Did you write an article for the newsletter? Well if not, WHY NOT! All items must be submitted by the fourth tuesday of every month. All articles must be on a 3.5 inch disk and saved in ascii code. If you have a 8 bit computer, either upload the article to the BBS or get it to me, and I will find somebody with an 8 bit (like Ted or Barbara Ling) and have them upload it to the board. However the editor reserves the right to ruin, mutilate, destroy, extinguish, demolish, or just not print any article. Those of you with programming knowledge, I am sure you would like to share your knowledge with the rest of the club. If you can't write, can you draw? We are allways looking for some good degas pictures for the newsletter. I would prefer these to be in High Resolution, but low resolution is acceptable..

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### - Looking back -

The new Atari computers - Summer 1983 The 600XL is scheduled to retail below \$200 and is shipped with 16K of RAM, upgradable to 64K using an expansion module from ATARI (\$100). Then there is the 800XL, which comes with 64K and should be priced around \$300. There are even rumors of third-party companies releasing memory modules to increase RAM to 192K. The 600XL should be on your dealer's shelves by September, followed by the 800XL later in the month. The new ATARI 1027 letter quality printer uses 5 small print drums to produce highly readable copy. It accepts both single sheet and roll paper and uses a replaceable ink roller (\$4.95). The 1027 is capable of both underlining and bi-directional printing, and plugs into the serial I/O connector on all ATARI computers without the need for a separate interface module. The relatively slow print speed of 20 characters per second is more than compensated by the \$349 price tag. Atari is also unveiling the 1050 disk drive and a new DOS III operating system, to be released sometime this fall. Unfortunately, the need for compatibility with DOS II limits the maximum disk capacity of the 1050 to 127K, instead of the 190K usually associated with a double-density drive. Projected price \$449. Add about \$250 for a color TV or monitor. That put the total cost in 1983 at \$1348. That's about the same as today's price for a 1040ST color system with a printer. What's the point? power without the price. That's the point.

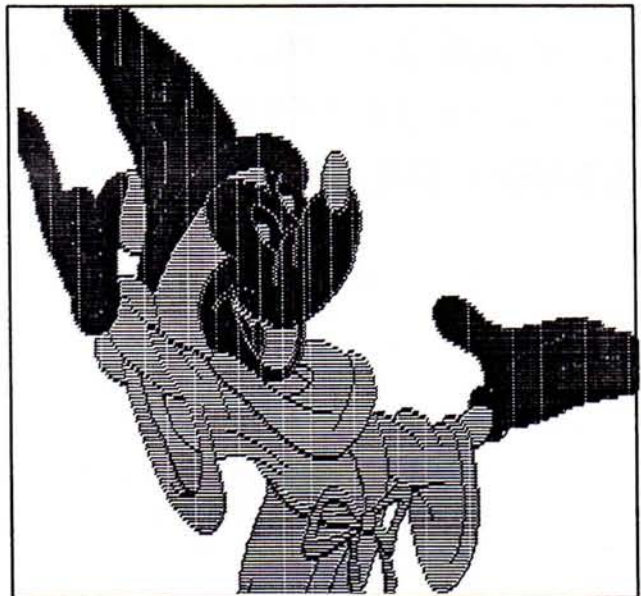
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do you have some computer hardware to sell? How about posting it here? For AA-AUG members we offer free posting of personal items. If you have computer equipment you want to sell, or other personal items why not post it here on the Memo pad where advertisement is free to all current members.



Well, we hope to see ya all at the next meeting... See ya then....



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